

// A special meeting of the Council of the City of Lynchburg, recessed from November 23, was held on the 14th day of December, 2004, at 1:00 P.M., Second Floor Training Room, City Hall, Carl B. Hutcherson, Jr., President, presiding. The purpose of the meeting was to conduct a work session regarding several items. The following Members were present:

Present: Dodson, Foster, Gillette, Helgeson, Johnson, Seiffert, Hutcherson

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Absent:

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// City Manager Kimball Payne provided a brief update regarding the selection of a consultant for the Midtown Area Plan and advised that of the four proposals received, staff is of the opinion that the team of Dover Kohl – Craddock Cunningham is the best suited for the Study. Mr. Payne explained that their approach in involving the community and the results they have achieved in other cities was impressive. Victor Dover, Hal Craddock, Margaret Marshall and Rick Hall, representatives from Dover Kohl – Craddock Cunningham, provided an overview regarding the process that would be used in the Study and responded to questions from City Council regarding the study area and what involvement, if any, two of the major stakeholders, i.e., Centra Health and The Plaza, would have in the process. In response to questioning, City Manager Payne stated that staff is seeking approval to negotiate the final scope of work with this firm, and that the final scope of work along with the sources available to fund the Study would be brought back to City Council at a future meeting. Council Member Dodson suggested that both of the major stakeholders be contacted and asked to help with the cost of the study. Some Council Members concurred with that suggestion, and City Manager Payne stated that he would contact both Centra Health and the owners of The Plaza. Following discussion, City Council, by consensus, gave approval to City staff to negotiate a final scope of work with Dover Kohl – Craddock Cunningham for the Midtown Area Study, and asked that the final scope of work along with a plan to fund the cost of the Study be scheduled for discussion at a future City Council meeting.

// Greater Lynchburg Transit Company (GLTC) General Manager Mike Carroll provided an overview regarding GLTC's annual report for fiscal year 2004.

// Parks and Recreation Director Kay Frazier provided an update regarding the Capital Improvement Plan for the department. Ms. Frazier presented a status report on projects completed, projects underway, as well as providing a brief review regarding the Department's draft ten-year plan for 2006-2015.

// Fire Chief Buddy Martinette along with Health & Safety Officer Rick Guedj provided an overview regarding the Fire Department's Health and Wellness Initiative.

// Human Resources Director Margaret Schmitt provided a brief overview regarding revised employment policies and procedures for City employees to become effective on January 1, 2005.

// Information Technology Director Mike Goetz along with Information Technology Network Services Manager Terry Hutchens provided a visual presentation regarding the need for upgraded audio and visual equipment for the City Council Chambers as well as the Second Floor Conference Room. Mr. Goetz explained that a more detailed report would be provided to City Council at a future meeting.

// During roll call, Council Member Helgeson inquired if some type of grant program could be provided to

businesses along that portion of Memorial Avenue who have been negatively impacted due to the construction work in conjunction with the combined sewer overflow program. City Manager Kimball Payne stated that he would look into the matter and provide a report to City Council at a later date. Council Member Seiffert suggested that staff presentations be brief and concise and not a repeat of written information previously submitted to City Council. Council Member Gillette inquired regarding the Blue Ridge Therapy Associates parking issue on Thomson Drive. Council Member Johnson inquired regarding Jane Morrison's request regarding landfill fees, and provided a brief summary of his recent National League of Cities (NLC) conference, stating that he would like for the City to reconsider its decision regarding membership in the NLC. Council Member Dodson inquired regarding the letter from the Campbell County Board regarding past regional cooperation agreements. Vice Mayor Joan Foster inquired if staff has determined if the request from the Martin Luther King, Jr./Lynchburg Community Council for \$3,000 for a new display/exhibit can be funded through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. City Manager Kimball Payne stated that more definition was needed in order for HUD to decide if CDBG funds could be used, and that the two funding options available would be FY2006 CDBG funds or unused, existing reprogrammed funding. Mayor Hutcherson stated that he and Vice Mayor Foster had met and scheduled Monday, February 28, for the State of the City address.

// The meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Clerk of Council